

Atty. Docket No.: 000168/N0668-35

REMARKS

1. Claims 1-3, 5, 7-19, 21-31, 33-43 and 45 are pending and stand rejected.

Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested.

2. A petition to accept an unintentionally delayed benefit claim to U.S. Application No. 09/347,882 (the '882 application), filed July 6, 1999, now U.S. Patent 6,263,022 B1, under 37 CFR 1.78(a)(3), is enclosed herewith. This paper amends the specification to include a reference to the '882 application as required by 35 U.S.C. 120 and 37 CFR 1.78(a)(2).

3. Claims 1-3, 5, 7-19, 21-31, 33-43 and 45 remain rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 6,263,022 to Chen *et al.* (Chen).

This rejection is now moot, as Chen is no longer available as a reference. Specifically, the Chen patent issued from the '882 application. This paper perfects applicant's priority claim under 35 U.S.C. 120 to the '882 application for all common subject matter. Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

4. Favorable reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested as it is believed that all outstanding issues have been addressed herein and, further, that claims 1-3, 5, 7-19, 21-31, 33-43, and 45 are in condition for allowance. Should there be any questions or matters whose resolution may be advanced by a telephone call, the examiner is cordially invited to contact applicants' undersigned attorney at his number listed below.

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5. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of any additional filing fees required under 37 CFR 1.16 and any patent application processing fees under 37 CFR 1.17, which are associated with this communication, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-2061.

Respectfully submitted,



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